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OCA 86-2464

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

Office of Congressional Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20505

Telephone: 351-6136

18 July 1986

**TO:** Mr. R. Spencer Oliver  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Spencer:

Enclosed you will find our response  
to Chairman Fascell's question concerning  
contamination of Kiev's water supply.

Deputy Director, House Affairs  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:  
As stated

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(40)

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**Response to Representative Fascell's question on contamination of Kiev's water supply.**

We have no evidence that the Chernobyl' nuclear accident has caused any health-threatening contamination to the water supply of Kiev. The Soviet press reports constant monitoring of all water supplies and notes that water from the Dnepr' River, the mouths of the Pripyat and Teterev Rivers, and the Kiev reservoir continues to meet state standards. In addition, as a preventive measure rather than a corrective, Kiev has been provided with a reserve water-supply system. The system draws from the Desna River, which flows from the east-northeast and enters the Dnepr' at Kiev. A number of artesian wells have also been drilled to supplement the city's water supply.

Considerable work also has been done to prevent radioactive contamination in the area of the nuclear power station from seeping into underground waters or into the Pripyat River which flows past the station and drains into the Dnepr'. Measures include: intercepting underground water flowing toward the power station and channelling it into the Pripyat River through a system of drains; construction of a 30-meter deep concrete wall to keep any surface or subsurface water at the station (from rainfall or clean-up operations) from seeping into the Pripyat River; paving with concrete, asphalt, and polymers to keep surface contamination from becoming windborn; and construction of levees along the Pripyat River.

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